# Goals for Transit







Improve access to opportunities and activities for those with limited travel options.



### Affordable

Ensure transit options are affordable to the user, accessible and barrierfree.



### Sustainable

Realize environmental benefits.



### **Partnerships**

Partner and engage with other organizations to establish a transit solution that works for as many people and destinations as possible.



### Flexible

The transit system is flexible and can easily adapt to changing demand, serve different times of day, or serve different destinations.









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Stakeholder &
Public Engagement
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Travel Needs Assessment







### **Jurisdictional Scan**

- Focus on communities with on-demand or hybrid systems to understand new technology.
- 7 communities in Canada including Powell River, BC and Cochrane, AB
- All communities are satisfied with their on-demand or hybrid systems and find them more scalable and adaptable to changing demand







### Stakeholder & Public Engagement

- Work and school trips are most important
- West End Commercial area is the key destination
  - Hospital, schools, Poplar Bluff Industrial Park
- Preference for easy to use and reliable system, short wait times, short travel times







### **Travel Needs Assessment**

- Analyzed travel patterns in and around Portage la Prairie on weekdays and weekends, including Long Plain, Dakota Tipi and industrial areas.
- West End Commercial and Downtown have the most activity, followed by residential areas.
- Less travel to Hospital, Poplar Bluff Industrial Park, Southport, the Island, Rotary Republic Park.



### Option 1 – Fully On-Demand







#### **Capacity for Riders**

Best for lower demand (ridership), testing new service

#### Accessible

- Transit coverage can include the entire community, nearby First Nations and key employment areas.
- Residents without smart phones or credit cards can access via call in centres and pay with cash or pass

#### Sustainable

• Low mode shift potential; priority on mobility for people who do not have access to a vehicle

#### Flexible

• Very flexible. Service can be adjusted with minimal effort and service matches demand.

### Option 2 – Hybrid Fixed and On-Demand





#### **Capacity for Riders**

• For medium demand, when demand in primary corridor exceeds capacity of an on-demand system.

#### Accessible

- Same as on-demand, transit coverage can include the entire community, nearby First Nations and key employment areas.
- Residents without smart phones or credit cards can access via call in centres and pay with cash or pass

#### Sustainable

 Modest mode shift potential in primary corridor; priority on mobility for people who do not have access to a vehicle

#### Flexible

• Most flexible. Fixed route accommodates situations when on-demand cannot support ridership.

# Option 3 – Fixed Routes







#### **Capacity for Riders**

For high demand, when demand in primary corridors exceeds capacity of on-demand system.

#### Accessible

- Limited transit coverage; some parts of community will not have access to transit.
- Fixed routes focus on high ridership corridors and/or priority destinations for access.

#### Sustainable

- Modest mode shift potential in primary corridors.
- Limited mobility for people or destinations not adjacent to routes and stops.

### Flexible

• Least flexible. Changes to service require significant planning, scheduling, communication and possible infrastructure.

# Summary of Transit Options

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|------------------------|--|--|---|---|
|                        |  | Option 1:<br>On-Demand   | <b>Option 2:</b><br>Hybrid Fixed and On-Demand  | Option 3:<br>Fixed Routes   |
| CAPACITY FOR<br>RIDERS | The number of peak and daily riders that can be accommodated on the system   | Low  | Medium-High   | High  |
| ACCESSIBLE             | Improve access to opportunities<br>and activities for those with limited travel<br>options   | <ul> <li>Transit coverage can include the entire community, nearby First Nations and key employment areas.</li> <li>Residents without smart phones or credit cards can access via call in centres and pay with cash or pass</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Transit coverage is the same as On-demand, but<br/>with fixed-route providing service in higher<br/>demand corridor.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Limited transit coverage</li> <li>Fixed routes focus on higher ridership or higher priority corridors</li> </ul>   |
| SUSTAINABLE            | Realize environmental benefits through mode shift and alternative fuel technology  | <ul> <li>Low mode shift; priority on mobility for people who<br/>do not have access to an automobile</li> <li>Alternative fuel technology possible</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Potential for modest mode shift; also provides<br/>mobility for people who do not have access to an<br/>automobile.</li> <li>Alternative fuel technology possible</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Potential for modest mode shift.</li> <li>Limited mobility for people who are not travelling near the transit stops.</li> <li>Alternative fuel technology possible.</li> </ul> |
| FLEXIBLE               | The transit system is flexible and can<br>adapt to changing demand, serve<br>different times of day, or<br>serve different destinations. | <ul> <li>Very flexible. Service can be adjusted with minimal effort, as needed.</li> <li>When demand is exceeded, wait times and travel times increase</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Most flexible for situations when on-demand<br/>cannot support the amount of ridership.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Inflexible. Changes to service require significant<br/>planning, scheduling communication, and<br/>possibly infrastructure</li> </ul>  |
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Portage a Prairie City of Possibilities

